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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 09/872,857 | 06/04/2001 | Kazuhiko Katakura | Q64653 | 1099 |

7590 01/12/2005
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EXAMINER

SAFAIPOUR, HOUSHANG

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2622

DATE MAILED: 01/12/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/872,857

Applicant(s)

KATAKURA ET AL.

Examiner

Houshang Safaipoor

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 September 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 04 June 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Applicant's amendment filed on September 8, 2004 has been entered and made of record.

Amended claims 9 and 21 have overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112 second paragraph.

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-24 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-9, 11, 13, 14, 16, 18-20, 23 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sugiyama et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,765,206).

Regarding claim 1, Sugiyama et al. discloses an image reading device comprising:

an illuminating section which emits visible light and infrared light and illuminates an original; an imaging section which images one of light transmitted through the original and light reflected by the original; an image sensor which divides an image imaged by the imaging section into a plurality of pixels and reads the image and outputs the image as image data; a moving section which moves at least one of at least one portion of the imaging section, the image sensor, and the original, in an optical axis direction of the imaging section; and a control section which, at each of a time of reading the image by the visible light and a time of reading the image by the infrared light, controls the moving section such that focus control is carried out by which an imaging position by the imaging section and a reading position of the image sensor coincide (figs. 1, 2, 11A and 11B, col. 17, lines 11-45).

Regarding claim 2, Sugiyama et al. discloses an image reading device according to claim 1, wherein on the basis of image data obtained by reading the image by the infrared light, the control section detects a position of at least one of scratch and foreign matter on the original, and on the basis of results of detection, corrects image data obtained by reading the image by the visible light (col. 17, lines 23-39).

Regarding claim 4, Sugiyama et al. discloses an image reading device according to claim 2, wherein before correction of the image data obtained by reading the image by the visible light, the control section detects an image positional off set amount between the image data obtained by reading the image by infrared light and the image data obtained by reading the image by the visible light, and, on the basis of the positional offset amount, corrects one of the image data obtained by reading the image by the infrared light or the image data obtained by reading the image by the visible light such that the positional offset amount becomes minimum (figs 11A

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and 11B, col. 17, line 49 through col. 18, line 6).

Regarding claim 6, arguments analogous to those presented for claim 4 are applicable to claim 6.

Regarding claims 7 and 8, arguments analogous to those presented for claims 1 and 4 are applicable to claims 7 and 8.

Regarding claims 9, 11, 13, 19 and 20, the arguments analogous to those presented for claim 1 are applicable to claims 9, 11, 13, 19 and 20.

Regarding claims 14, 16 and 18, the arguments analogous to those presented for claims 2 and 4 are applicable to claims 14, 16 and 18 respectively.

Regarding claims 23 and 24, the arguments analogous to those presented for claim 1 are applicable to claims 23 and 24.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3, 5, 15 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sugiyama et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,765,206).

Regarding claim 3, magnification chromatic aberration correction and distortion aberration correction on the image data obtained by reading the image by the infrared light are

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well known and routinely implemented in the art. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have these features performed by control section in Sugiyama's apparatus as an additional correction measures to improve image quality.

Regarding claim 5, arguments analogous to those presented for claim 1 are applicable to claim 5.

Regarding claim 15, the arguments analogous to those presented for claim 3 are applicable to claim 15.

Regarding claim 17, the arguments analogous to those presented for claim 4 are applicable to claim 17.

Claims 10, 12 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sugiyama et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,765,206) and further in view of Oshima et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,628,432).

Regarding claim 10, Sugiyama et al. does not explicitly disclose an image reading device according to claim 1, wherein the imaging section is provided with a transparent parallel plate which can change the imaging position by the imaging section by being inserted onto and withdrawn from a position on an optical axis of the imaging section, and the moving section inserts the transparent parallel plate onto and withdraws the transparent parallel plate from the position on the optical axis of the imaging section. Oshima et al. discloses such an apparatus (Abstract, col. 5, line 16 through col. 6 line 63). Therefore it would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the invention was made to combine Oshima's apparatus with that of Sugiyama, because, this addition would improve focusing for reflective and

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translucent originals.

Regarding claim 12, the arguments analogous to those presented for claims 1 and 10 are applicable to claim 12.

Regarding claim 22, the arguments analogous to those presented for claim 10 are applicable to claim 22.


Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Houshang Safaipoor whose telephone number is (703)306-4037. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Thurs. from 6:30am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L Coles, Sr. can be reached on (703)305-4712. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Houshang Safaipoor
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2622
April 10, 2004


EDWARD COLES
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER